



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

JUL 31 2013

Mr. David Lyons
Deputy Director, Compliance Program
Water Management Administration
Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21230

Re: Draft General NPDES Permit for Stormwater Associated with Construction Activities
(MDRC 14GP)

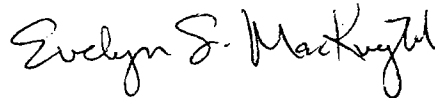
Dear Mr. Lyons:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the above-referenced draft permit and fact sheet, which were submitted to EPA on June 27, 2013. EPA provided initial comments via email and held a phone discussion with MDE on July 11, 2013. A revised permit package was submitted to EPA July 12, 2013, which incorporated changes that were communicated during our phone conversation. Listed below are some additional recommendations to better align the permit with EPA's national Construction General Permit (CGP) (effective February 16, 2012). While these changes are not required by federal regulations and EPA will not object to the permit as currently written, EPA feels that the recommended language would serve to improve the permit.

- Part 1.5 of the CGP requires the permittee to post a notice of permit coverage "at a safe, publicly accessible location in close proximity to the project site" so that members of the public can easily recognize the project site name and NPDES permit information. EPA recommends this same language be added to Part II, Notice of Intent Requirements, of the MDRC 14GP.
- Maryland's new lawn fertilizer law, effective October 1, 2013, contains new requirements for applying fertilizer in Maryland, including certification. EPA recommends that language referencing this law be added to the MDRC 14GP.
- Part 1.1.e and Appendix D of the CGP requires the permittee to demonstrate, through supporting documentation contained in the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), that the site meets the requirements of The Endangered Species Act. EPA recommends the same requirement be added to Part II.E, Contents of Applications, of the MDRC 14GP.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, or have your staff contact Ms. Liz Ottinger at 215-814-5783.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Evelyn S. MacKnight".

Evelyn S. MacKnight, Chief
NPDES Permits Branch
Water Protection Division

Cc: Jesse Salter, MDE